

UOSH SAFETY LINE

NEWSLETTER

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF | *Louis M Silva*EDITOR | *Terri DeVries*

Ladder Safety

Stairways and ladders are a major source of injuries and fatalities among construction workers.

OSHA estimates that there are 24,882 injuries and as many as 36 fatalities per year due to falls from stairways and ladders used in construction. Nearly half of these injuries are serious enough to require time off the job--11,570 lost workday injuries and 13,312 non-lost workday injuries occur annually due to falls from stairways and ladders used in construction. This data demonstrate that work on and around ladders and stairways is hazardous. More importantly, they show that compliance with OSHA's requirements for the safe use of ladders and stairways could have prevented many of these injuries.

The requirements of OSHA safety regulations for the safe use of ladders and stairs (Subpart X, Title 29 Code of Federal Regulations, 1926.1050 through 1926.1060, 1910.25, 1910.26 and 1910.27)



Ladder safety begins with selecting the right ladder for the job and includes inspection, setup, proper climbing or standing, proper use, care, and storage. This combination of safe equipment and its safe use can eliminate most ladder accidents.

Always check a ladder before using it. Inspect wood ladders for cracks or splits. Inspect metal and fiberglass ladders for bends and breaks. Never use a damaged ladder

When setting up an extension ladder, make sure it's straight and sitting firmly on the ground or floor. If one foot sits lower, build up the surface with firm material, don't set it on boxes, bricks or other unstable bases. Lean the ladder against something solid, but not against a glass surface. Make sure the ladder is placed at a safe angle, with the base away from the wall or edge of the upper level about one foot for every four feet of vertical height. Keep ladders away from doorways or walkways, unless barriers can protect them.

Keep the steps and rungs of the ladder free of grease, paint, mud or other slippery material. And remember to clean debris off your shoes before climbing. Always face the ladder when climbing up or down, using both hands to keep a good grip on the rails or rungs. Never carry heavy or bulky loads up a ladder. Climb up yourself first, and then pull up the material with a rope or bucket.

Many ladder accidents occur because of slipping or skidding. You can prevent these accidents by equipping the ladder with non-slip safety feet, blocking its base and tying it to a sound, permanent structure.

Overreaching is probably the most common cause of falls from ladders. Don't try to move a ladder while you're on it by rocking, jogging or pushing it away from the supporting wall.

When you've finished the job, properly store the ladder so it won't be exposed to excessive heat or dampness and will be in good condition for the next time.

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Health and Wellness

Hearing Protection in the Workplace

Excessive exposure to noise could cause permanent hearing loss. To protect workers' hearing, employers should conduct noise monitoring to determine noise levels present in work areas, control noise exposures by eliminating or isolating the sources, enroll affected employees in a hearing conservation program, and provide hearing protection if required. Employers should also provide the employees with training and education, and maintain proper record-keeping.

Hearing protection devices (HPD) such as earmuffs and earplugs can be an effective method to protect one's hearing in noisy work environments. However, HPD's are only effective if they are properly sized and carefully fitted into or over the ear. Keep in mind that HPDs do not eliminate the hazard or put the responsibility on the worker.

Some types of HPD's are:

Formable earplugs are made of expandable foam and one size fits most people. These earplugs must be narrowed and compressed by rolling between your fingers before being inserted into the ear canal. Once inserted, the earplug expands to fill the ear canal and reduce noise transmission into the ear. If they're inserted incorrectly, they won't provide much protection against noise.

Pre-molded earplugs are made from flexible plastics in different sizes. They should be selected to provide the best fit for each ear.

Semi-aural devices (or canal caps) consist of flexible tips on a lightweight headband. They provide less protection than earplugs or earmuffs but may be good for intermittent use.

Earmuffs are rigid cups with soft plastic cushions that seal around the ears.

To ensure the cleanliness of your HPDs and prevent ear infections, precautions must be taken. Hands should be clean before rolling foam earplugs. If possible, disposable earplugs should be disposed of after each use. If reused, earplugs should be washed with soap and warm water and allowed to dry thoroughly before reuse.

Depending on the worksite conditions, keeping hands clean may not always be possible. Pre-formed earplugs often come with a plastic stick at the outer end. This type of earplug allows for insertion and removal without touching the part of the earplug that enters the ear.

Earmuffs are less likely than earplugs to contribute to ear infections. However, earmuff cushions should be periodically wiped or washed clean. Workers who experience multiple ear infections with earplugs should wear earmuffs. Workers should let employers know which HPD is best for them to wear, and feedback from workers should be considered when purchasing HPDs.

Instruments generally used to measure sound are:

Sound level meters are used to spot check noise dosimeter performance, determine an employee's noise dose, identify and evaluate an individual noise source, aid in determining the feasibility of engineering controls, and evaluating HPD's.

Dosimeters are worn by the employees to determine the personal noise dose during a work shift or sampling period.

Octave-Band Analyzer help determine the adequacy of various types of frequency-dependant noise controls, select hearing protectors because they can measure the amount of attenuation (how much a sound is weakened) offered by the protectors in the octave bands responsible for most of the sound energy in a given situation and divide noise into its frequency components.

To review regulations that may apply to your workplace see OSHA 29 CFR 1910.95 for general industry and 29 CFR 1926.52 for the construction industry.





Safety Compliance Corner

Training Topics

Question: Does OSHA have a list of Tail Gate meetings or approved topics. And if so how do I find the list?

Answer: OSHA does not approve anything, including training topics. It is the employer's responsibility to determine what hazards exist for his/her employees and design the training to address those hazards. However, OSHA does have some training resources available.

OSHA's Training Assistance Programs include e Tools, e Matrix, Expert Advisors, and v Tools

eTools and eMatrix are "stand-alone," interactive, Web-based training tools on occupational safety and health topics. These tools are highly illustrated and utilize graphical menus. Some also use expert system modules, which enable the user to answer questions, and receive reliable advice on how OSHA regulations apply to their work site.

Expert Advisors are based solely on expert systems and v-Tools are prevention video training tools.

Select eTools are available as downloadable files for off-line use.

Please go to the OSHA site for a link by topic to these tools. <http://www.osha.gov/dts/osta/oshasoft/index.html> another resource is http://www.osha.gov/dte/library/materials_library.html

OSHA Required Training From A to Z

OSHA requires that certain training topics are covered with employees yearly. A responsible person should be designated to provide the safety training. Some required training topics are:

- | | |
|--|--|
| a. Emergency action plan | n. Control of hazardous energy lockout/tag out |
| b. Fire prevention plan | Medical service and first aid |
| c. Operation of powered man lifts | p. Fire brigades |
| d. Hearing protection | q. Portable fire extinguishers |
| e. Ionizing radiation | r. Fire extinguishing system |
| f. Storage of flammable and combustible liquids | s. Servicing multi-piece and single-piece rim wheels |
| g. Explosives or blasting agents | t. Powered industrial trucks |
| h. Storage and handling of LP gases | u. Mechanical power presses |
| i. Process safety management of highly hazardous chemicals | v. Welding |
| j. Hazardous waste operations and emergency response | w. Electrical safety related work practices |
| k. Respiratory protection | x. Toxic and hazardous substances |
| l. Accident prevention signs and tags | y. Blood borne pathogens |
| m. Permit-required confined spaces | |

Did You Know Utah OSHA Consultation Services offers FREE 10 Hour Construction and General Industry Courses in combination with a FREE Safety and Health Survey?



consultation Services provides Utah Employers, at the employers' request and direction, a confidential, non-penalty approach to safety and health concerns in the workplace, at no-charge.

We offer workplace safety and health services such as:

A safety and health walk-through survey

Help to recognize and correct hazards

Recommend solutions for workplace safety and health problems

Safety and health program review

Industrial hygiene sampling

Safety and health training

Safety and health information/ resources

To Schedule Your Survey Contact UOSH Consultation at (801) 530-6855 or by email UOSHconsultationprogram@utah.gov

2012 Schedule

10 Hour Occupational Safety and Health Training

Construction

May 23,24

September 26,27

General Industry

March 21, 22

July 11,12

November 7,8

Each employee that completes the 10 hour training can purchase a 10 Hour Occupational Safety and Health Training Course card, issued by the U.S. Department of Labor. An employee must attend all 10 hours to receive the card. **Classes begin each day promptly at 11:00am and end promptly at 4:30 PM.** All classes will be held in the UOSH Conference Room on the third floor of the Heber Wells Building (160 East 300 South) Salt Lake City. **Call Jamie for further details: (801) 530-6855 or by email UOSHconsultationprogram@utah.gov**

Respiratory Protection

An estimated 5 million workers are required to wear respirators in 1.3 million workplaces throughout the United States.

Respirators protect workers against insufficient oxygen environments, harmful dusts, fogs, smokes, mists, gases, vapors, and sprays. These hazards may cause cancer, lung impairment, other diseases, or death. Compliance with the OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard could avert many deaths and illnesses annually. Review these standards at www.osha.gov 29 CFR 1910.134 for general industry and 29 CFR 1926.103 for Construction.

OSHA has posted a series of videos to help workers learn about the proper use of respirators on the job. There are nine short videos, eight of which are also available in Spanish. Topics include respiratory protection in general industry, respiratory protection in construction, respiratory types, fit testing, maintenance and care of respirators, medical evaluations, training requirements, voluntary use of respirators, and counterfeit and altered respirators. For more information on respirators go to

**For Immediate Release**

January 23, 2012

Contact: Elena Bensor
Community Relations/Public Information Officer
801.530.6918 desk

Utah Labor Commission Opens Grant Application Process to Fund Promotion of Workplace Safety

SALT LAKE CITY, UT—The Utah Labor Commission is requesting applications for grant projects or initiatives demonstrating a commitment to workplace safety. Proposals may include, but are not limited to, development of workshops and training, implementation of specialized safety programs, increasing effort and resources for existing programs, and collaborative workplace safety training between organizations.

The money that supports the Workplace Safety Account is generated from a 0.25% annual assessment on workers' compensation premiums. The Utah Labor Commission is charged with the task of using these funds to promote workplace safety, which includes awarding a portion of account funds to selected grant applicants. It is anticipated that over \$500,000 will be awarded to select grant recipients, and will be distributed among as many qualifying applicants and in monetary amounts the Labor Commission deems appropriate. Entities eligible to apply for a grant include Utah businesses, community-based organizations, Utah non-profits and local associations and educational institutions.

"The Workplace Safety Committee of the Labor Commission has identified key priorities upon which to focus for the upcoming year. The focus is with industries and occupations that have higher incidences of workplace accidents and fatalities such as construction, manufacturing and highway safety, as well as projects that assist Utah employers in breaking down barriers to safer work environments due to language and cultural barriers", said Utah Labor Commissioner, Sherrie Hayashi. "This is a great opportunity for an employer or other entity to augment its safety program budget and provide additional means to reduce workplace accidents for its employees."

The Grant Application and all related details outlining the criteria successful applicants must satisfy, as well as the process the Commission shall use to award the funds, is available online at www.laborcommission.utah.gov or by contacting Elena Bensor, Community Relations/Public Information Officer at (801) 530-6918 or elenabensor@utah.gov.

Grant Applications are due **Monday, April 9th, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.** The grant period will cover up to a 12 month period beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013.



SAFETY NOTICE

110007

North America - Asia-Pacific
- Latin America

Date: February 7, 2012

Models and Serial Numbers Affected:

Z-45/25 IC : Z452510A-39914 to 40099
Z452511A-40102 to 42272

Subject: Unintended swing movement

Allowable Hours: Inspection only: 0.5 hours
Inspection and Manifold Replacement: 2.5 hours

Issue:

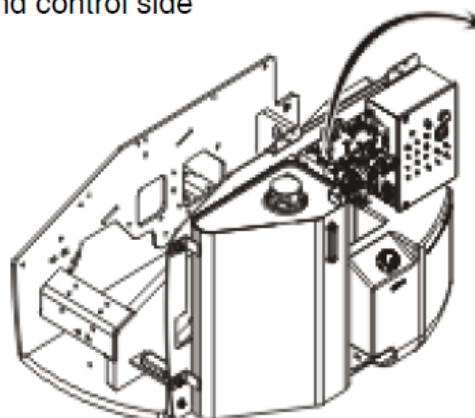
Genie Industries has been notified by our supplier of a machining error on certain function manifolds, Genie P/N 110273. Some function manifolds manufactured between 9/6/2010 to 5/22/2011 may have a cavity defect that causes the nose seals of the "Swing Pressure Compensator Valve" to leak. **This can result in unintended swing movement when another function is actuated.**

Action Required:

This notice requires the inspection of the function manifold installed in your machine.

1. Locate all Z-4525IC machines within the serial range given above.
2. Locate the function manifold on the machine.

Ground control side



Function manifold

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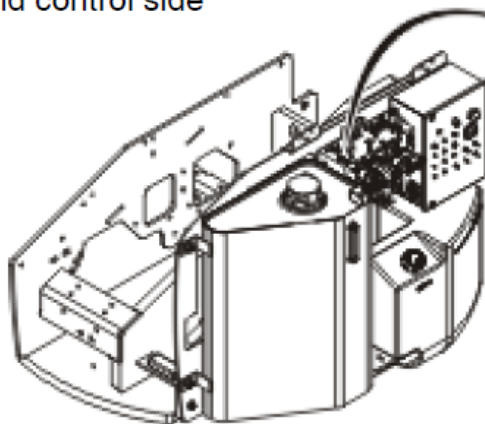
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Ground control side



Function manifold

3. With the machine in the stowed position and the power off, inspect for milling and serial number stamping on the side of the function manifold:



A

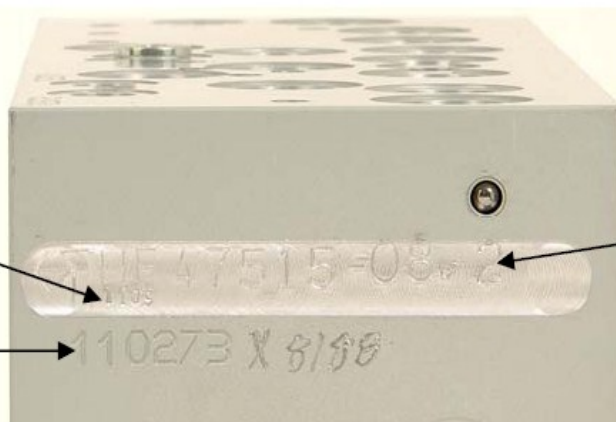


B

- If there is no milling on the block (manifold A), no need for further inspection. Fill out the Completion Form for Inspection attached to this notice and send back to Genie.
 - If milling is observed (manifold B), continue on to step 4.
4. Inspect for the date code stamped on the block. The date code is just below the serial number stamping.

4 digit date code
(1037 to 1122)

Genie P/N 110273

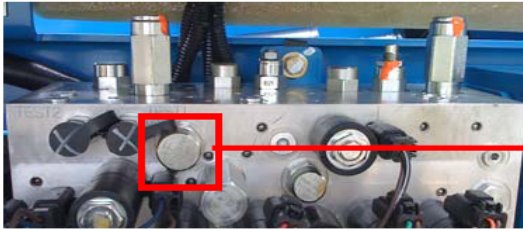


Hydraforce Serial
Number Stamping

- If the date code, found on the side of the manifold, is outside of the range 1037 to 1122, the manifold installed on your machine is not affected. There is no need for further inspection. Fill out the Completion Form for Inspection attached to this notice and send it back to Genie.
- If the date code is within the range, continue on to the next step.

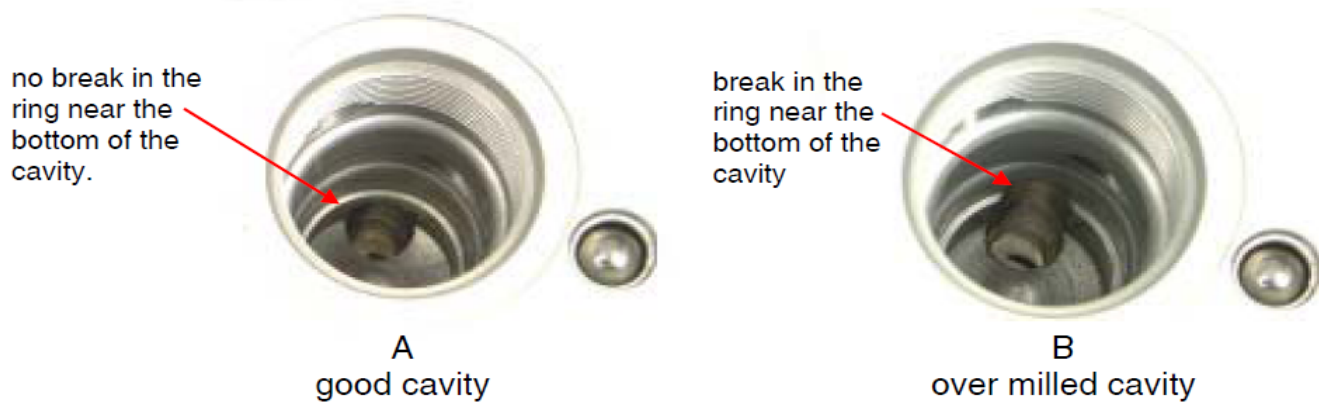
5. Locate the cartridge engraved with the Hydraforce P/N EC10-3205.

Notice: This cartridge is above the reservoir oil level. About 1 ounce (30 cc) of oil will leak out of the cavity when this cartridge is removed.



P/N EC10-3205

6. Place rags below the valve.
7. Remove the cartridge in step 5 and inspect the cavity.



- If no break in the ring is observed (illustration A), the function manifold is good.
 - i. Inspect the O-ring seal at the base of the valve for cuts, tears or abrasions.
 - If the O-ring seal is not damaged, proceed to step ii.
 - If the O-ring seal is damaged, replace the O-ring. Dip the valve in clean, fresh hydraulic oil and proceed to step ii.
 - ii. Re-install the cartridge back in the cavity.
 - iii. Torque to 35-40 ft.lb / 155-177 N.
 - iv. Fill-out the attached Completion Form for Inspection and return to Genie. No further action is necessary
- If a break in the ring is observed (illustration B), the cavity was over-milled.
 - i. Re-install the cartridge back in the cavity.
 - ii. Torque to 35-40 ft.lb / 155-177 N.
 - iii. Remove the machine from service.

Note: The machine can only be returned to service only after the defective manifold is replaced.
 - iv. Contact Ron Wixon at 877-337-8560 or 425-556-8560 in Genie's Service department to schedule shipment of the replacement manifold.